

Welcome to
Immaculate Conception Parish

A Catholic Community Inviting People to Follow Christ

February 21, 2021 - First Sunday Of Lent

*Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those
who keep your covenant*



“Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit.”

- 1 Peter 3:18

Love God • Serve Others • Make Disciples

Contact Us

☎: 773.775.3833

📍: 7211 W. Talcott Avenue
Chicago, IL. 60631

✉: parishoffice@icchicago.org
(Please note: new email address)

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Saturday: 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Sunday: 9:00 A.M. - Noon

Parish Website:

🌐: www.icchicago.org

School Website:

🌐: www.iccowboys.net

Social Media



Facebook:

View our Masses, connect with fellow parishioners, and access exclusive articles and content. Simply search “**Immaculate Conception Parish Chicago (Talcott)**” and request to join our online community.

Twitch:

Membership-free platform where all are welcome to view our Masses and access content.
Visit us at www.twitch.tv/icchicago



Mass and Sacrament Schedule

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil @ 5:00 P.M.
Sunday Mass @ 8:30 A.M.
Sunday Mass @ 10:30 A.M.*
(*Our 10:30 A.M. Mass is also livestreamed)

Reservations are recommended to assist with contact tracing. Walk-ins are welcome, but must provide name and telephone number (or email) upon entry. Please visit our website or contact our Parish Office to register.

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Online Only
Monday through Friday @ 7:00 P.M.
Wednesdays @ 8:30 A.M. (School Mass)
(Worship with us virtually on our Facebook Page or Twitch)

In-Person
First Friday Mass @ 5:30 P.M. each month followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction from 6:00-7:00 P.M.

Confessions:

First and Third Tuesdays of each month from 6:00-7:00 P.M.
(Special dates & times offered during Advent & Lent)

Baptisms:

Saturdays @ 1:00 P.M.
Sundays @ 12:30 P.M.

Donate

Church & Special Collections:

Interested in supporting our parish, specific ministries and projects?

Please consider giving online at Give Central: www.givecentral.org/location/349

Offertory envelopes can also be mailed in or dropped off at our Parish Office.

School:

Interested in supporting Catholic Education for both present and future generations?

Please donate to our **Endowment Fund** (via Give Central) or support efforts by our **Holy Name Men’s Club** and **Parents Club** posted on our Social Media or featured in our bulletin.

This Lent: Prayer and Service

This Lent, I encourage all of you to grow deeper in faith. In my homily last week, I asked every person who considers themselves a disciple of God to deepen their devotion this Lent, but not for their own sake. I asked every person of good will to participate in the practices of Lent for the sake of our community.

I asked that our attitude be one of *hosts* and not guests. This means that we are concerned with the well-being of those who visit us. That we strive to make them feel known, valued, and loved. Lent is a perfect time of year for such considerations. To that effect, here are some of the things we will do:



1) **Vespers** – Supporting our Music Ministry as well as the Homeless

Vespers is a prayer service I have been promoting in parish life ever since I became a priest. I am a strong believer in the importance of prayer and its role should be emphasized in our parishes. *The Liturgy of the Hours*, which designates five periods of time a day, is the official prayer of the whole Catholic Church. Its purpose is to “*sanctify our day with prayer*” and open our hearts to receive and reflect the love of God.

We will celebrate this prayer on Wednesdays during Lent at 7:00 P.M.:
2/24, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, and 3/24

During these services, *we will accept freewill offerings to support our Music Ministry*, which puts a lot of time, effort, and love into these expressions of prayer. They are also great opportunities for us to workshop music that is featured regularly during our Sunday Masses.

The other 50% of money received will go to support Catholic Charities Food Kitchen, which provides cooked meals to the poor and homeless. Each meal that can be sponsored costs \$500. My goal is to sponsor two meals, so I would like to raise \$2000 in 5 weeks.

Cash or checks are accepted at the service itself. If you watch online, please consider sending/ dropping off an envelope marked “*Vespers*” and we will properly designate the money.

2) We will also collect food for the Catholic Charities Food Pantry, located on Rand Road. I have spoken with them, inquiring which items they run out of routinely and need to service families in need, especially during COVID-19.

Starting next weekend, February 27th & 28th, please consider dropping these items off in bins located at the entrance of our Church:

Peanut Butter & Jelly, Spaghetti & Pastas, Pasta Sauce, Rice, Condensed Milk, Canned Soup (or Dry), Canned Fruits

I would also like to request help (date TBD) to sort these items and deliver them during Lent. The more trips the better!

Thank you for your support of us this past year. I hope, alongside it, we may serve others as well.

Fr. Matt

Additional Opportunities for Confessions - Sundays

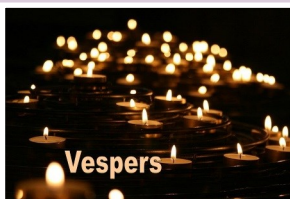


This Lent, we invite you to join us for spiritual opportunities to rekindle your relationship with our Lord. All are welcome!

For the first two Sundays of Lent, **February 21st & February 28th**, we will offer a special opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation between our **8:30 A.M.** and **10:30 A.M.** Masses. (No registration required.) We simply invite you to remain after our 8:30 A.M. Mass concludes or to arrive early for our 10:30 A.M. Mass if you would like to receive the Sacrament from Fr. Robert or Fr. Matt. As we will not be offering a Communal Penance Service this Lent due to COVID-19 restrictions, we encourage you to take advantage of this special opportunity.



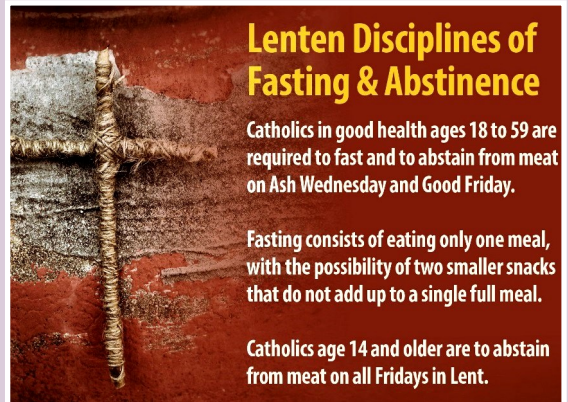
Lenten Vespers Service—Wednesdays @ 7:00 P.M.



This Lent, we invite you to gather with us in prayer on Wednesday evenings for our *Lenten Vespers Service: An Evening of Song & Prayer* which will take place in our Church from **7:00-7:30 P.M.** beginning on **February 24th** and continuing each Wednesday

through **March 24th**. If you would like to join us, please visit our parish website (icchicago.org) or contact our Parish Office (773.775.3833) to register. If you are unable to join us in-person, we encourage you to join us virtually as our Vespers Services will also be livestreamed on our parish Facebook page (*Immaculate Conception Parish Chicago -Talcott*) as well as on our Twitch channel (www.twitch.tv/icchicago).

Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence



Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

Weekday In-Person Mass —Thursdays @ 8:30 A.M.

We are gradually beginning to expand our In-Person Weekday Mass schedule by reintroducing our **8:30 A.M.** Mass which will be celebrated **every Thursday** beginning on **February 25th**. Reservations are recommended to assist with contact tracing. Walk-ins are welcome, but must provide name and telephone number (or email) upon entry. Please visit our website (icchicago.org) or contact our Parish Office (773.775.3833) to register.

For those unable to join us in-person on Thursdays, our 8:30 A.M. Mass will also be livestreamed from our Church via our Twitch channel (twitch.tv/icchicago) as well as our Facebook page.

Stations Of The Cross -Fridays @ 7:00 P.M.

The Way of the Cross will be prayed in our Church **every Friday evening of Lent** at **7:00 P.M.** beginning on **February 26th**. It is a traditional way of remembering what our Lord

endured for us and how we continue to carry the Cross of Christ today. If you would like to join us, please visit our parish website (icchicago.org) or contact our Parish Office (773.775.3833) to register.



"When we walk without the Cross, when we build without the Cross, when we profess Christ without the Cross, we are not disciples of the Lord. We are worldly...but not disciples of the Lord." (Pope Francis, homily, 2013)

IC Holy Name Men's Club presents

Immaculate Conception ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Party postponed, COOKING CONTINUES!



SAT. MARCH 13th

Pick-up/Delivery @5pm-7pm

Cost: Platter-\$20 (each additional \$18)
Homemade Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes,
Rye Bread, Pickle, Dessert

Sandwich: \$15 (each additional \$13)
Corned Beef on Rye, Chips, Pickle, Dessert



Take a break from cooking for this
DELICIOUS Fundraiser!



(Pay with Cash/Check/Venmo)

**Please call and reserve your order by March 6th.
(That way we will know how much to Cook)

Contact:

Pat Gallagher 773-251-2271

Amy Gallagher 708-955-6203

Sean Fennessy 773-269-9778

Jack Murphy 773-860-1092

Ralph Warner 773-550-6747

Marty McGrath 773-425-4650

Made with PosterMyWall ** IC Parish Center ** 7271 W Talcott, Chicago

Please join our parish family in prayer ...



Lord, Hear Our Prayer...

Tom Altman
 Concetta Bartucci
 Melissa Bednarz
 Robert Behrman
 Sonia M. B.
 Vince Caeti
 Jackie Campbell
 Rita Castillo
 Donna Chaplin
 James Covello
 Sherry Crocifisso
 Ronnie Cunningham
 Christina Dziekonski
 Richard Flanagan
 Brooke Foreman
 Lila Gehner
 MaryBeth Gronek
 Ofelia Hernandez
 Dennis M. Jaburek

For those who are sick:

Esther Jarosh
 Helga Jarosz
 Erma Kinzie
 Wayne Kinzie
 Craig Kloss
 Lillian Kohut
Marcia Mally
 Benny Martinez
 Edwin Martinez
 Frank Martinez
 Fr. Eric Meyer, C.P.
 Sam Milazzo
 Veronica Murillo
 Timothy Murray
 Judith Nosko
 Mary Beth O'Grady
 Jackie O'Koniewski
 David Olson
 Fr. Alan Phillip, C.P.

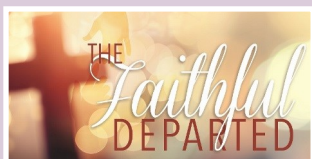
Mary Potwora
 Helen Rasmussen
 Bill Remblake
 David Rodriguez
 Elaine Schatz
 Jennie Sekula
 Don Skorey
Dennis Slater
 Edward Stanczyk
 Marion Szumski
 Donna Tisdale
 Steven P. Trifilio
 John F. Vargo
 Henry Wagener
 Geoffrey Woittel

***Newly Added**

If you wish to have your name included in our prayer list (or removed), please contact our Parish Office at 773.775.3833.

For our faithful departed:

Lilia Macapagal
 Linda K. McInerney (Wife of Bill, Mother of Colleen Nutley)
 Marilyn K. Martin (Wife of Thomas, Mother of Edward)
 Baby Kataeri Wesley (Granddaughter of Lisa Anderson)



"Eternal rest grant unto them,
 O Lord, and let perpetual light shine
 upon them."

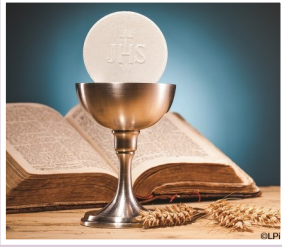


For those who serve our country:



U.S. Army - SSgt. John Francis Mikita, Sgt. Kevin Whalen, SSgt Martine Makita, Chris Dash, Pvt. Jason G. Cavanaugh, Major Christopher Walsh, Capt. Benjamin Monson, 1st Lt. Katherine D. Hartnett, SPC Michael J. Stone, Pvt. Charlie Cruz Pappas, Thomas Treslo, National Guard Specialist 4th Class
U.S. Navy - CDR Michael Brasseur, Lt. Christopher Jenkins, PO Thomas T. Tudisco
U.S. Air Force - John Christopher Ocasio, Major Laurel Walsh, Captain Paul H. Kolk, LT. COL. Michael O'Koniewski; 2nd Lt. Colleen Bernal
U.S. Marines - Sean Gronset, PFC Sebastian L. Rivera, Jr., PFC Christopher Hughes, PFC Algene D. Porticos

Please contact our Parish Office when these service people return home safely. If you are a veteran or know a veteran, the Archdiocese of Chicago has a website located at vets.archchicago.org that provides information that can be of assistance.



**Mass Intentions:
Sunday, February 21st
through
Sunday, February 28th**

Sunday, February 21st - First Sunday of Lent

5:00 P.M. (Saturday) - †Stanley Lyskanowski (Birthday Remembrance)

8:30 A.M. — The People of the Parish

10:30 A.M. — †Dominic Storto; †Kenneth Luedtke; †Francis Brissette (on his 16th Anniversary); †Mary Leveille; †Francis & Moira Cross; †William Tyson; †Laurence Butler; †John Butler; and †Esteban Lasa

Monday, February 22nd - The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle

7:00 P.M. (Virtual Mass) — †Rita Davis; and †Leonardo Positano (on his 2nd Anniversary); and †Leo Pryma (Birthday Remembrance)

Tuesday, February 23rd - Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

7:00 P.M. (Virtual Mass) — †Tom Anna (on his 35th Anniversary)

Wednesday, February 24th - Lenten Weekday

8:30 A.M. — †Leon Lacey, Jr.

Thursday, February 25th - Lenten Weekday

8:30 A.M. — †Penny Jaworski (on her 5th Anniversary); and †Robert H. Sroka

Friday, February 26th - Lenten Weekday

7:00 P.M. (Virtual Mass) — †John Pastwa

Saturday, February 27th - Lenten Weekday

5:00 P.M. - †Harry Schatz

Sunday, February 28th - Second Sunday of Lent

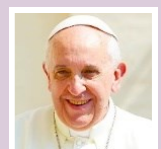
8:30 A.M. - †Ivan Perez

10:30 A.M. — †DJ O'Shea; †Memena Palmieri; and Laura Luedtke (Living)



Pope Tweet of the Week...

"The person who prays is like someone in love with the beloved in his or her heart wherever they go. So we can pray at any moment, and during what happens every day: on the street, in the office, on public transportation, through words and in the silence of our hearts."





Annual Catholic Appeal

Please Make Your Gift to the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal
Come, follow me ... and bring hope to the world.

Our parish is conducting our campaign for the Annual Catholic Appeal. Please remember that the Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift payable in installments.

Each pledge makes a difference! All parish communities participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our parishes, schools and ministries to deliver needed services.

If you are able (and have not already done so), please consider assisting us in reaching our parish goal of **\$49,532** by donating to the *Annual Catholic Appeal* this weekend. To make your gift, you can complete the mail-in giving envelope available at our Church or make a gift online at: **annualcatholicappeal.com** or text the keyword: **ACA2021** to the number **345345** on your mobile device.

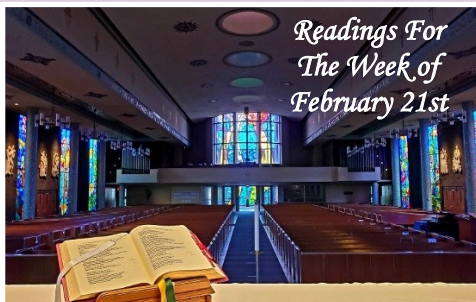


Thank you for supporting the many charities & ministries of the Archdiocese!

2020 Contribution Statements



2020 Contribution Statements (for tax purposes) are now available to our parishioners & donors upon request. If you would like to receive either a paper statement or an electronic statement of your contributions to our parish for tax year 2020, please visit our website: **icchicago.org** and complete our **Contribution Statement Request Form**. For those without computer access, please contact our Parish Office via telephone at 773.775.3833 to request a copy of your statement (available via pick up at our Parish Office or sent via postal mail.) With grateful hearts, we thank you for your faithful & generous support of our parish!



Readings For The Week of February 21st

- Sunday:** Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15
- Monday:** 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19
- Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/Mt 6:7-15
- Wednesday:** Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32
- Thursday:** Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12
- Friday:** Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26
- Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48
- Next Sunday:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

Gospel Meditation - Encourage a Deeper Understanding of Scripture



St. Oscar Romero said, “*Aspire not to have more, but to be more.*” These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the “*idol of the self,*” keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It’s not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God’s love and how we can better imitate God’s loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn’t just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. “*Being more*” means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the “*quality*” of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God’s unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of “*life in the good old days.*” Lent isn’t about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It’s about becoming something new. It’s about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does. ©LPi

Everyday Stewardship – Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

The Unlikely Suspects

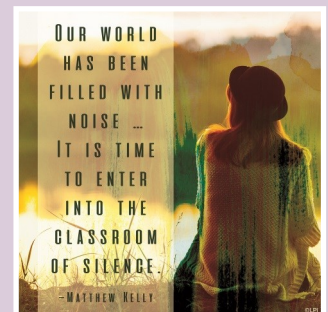
Have you ever taken a nature walk? Have you leisurely strolled through a forest or field, with no real destination in mind and your only objective being receptivity to and observation of all God’s creation?

Sometimes, Scripture readings can feel like a nature walk. All of salvation history plays out against the backdrop of the natural world, with all elements of God’s creation – plants and animals and the dust of the earth itself – turning in a supporting performance. How about Jesus in the hot and dusty desert, tempted, living “*among the wild beasts?*” Noah departed from his ark with the animals he rescued, observing God’s sign in the very clouds of the sky. Even God Himself, offering us salvation from original sin through the waters of baptism.

How often do we remember that God speaks to us through all of His creation, even in the unlikeliest suspects? Let’s go back to the nature walk. It sounds like a lovely way to pass an afternoon, amongst wildflowers and butterflies, but don’t forget the beating hot sun, mosquitos, and threat of rain on the horizon. Remember, we’re not in heaven yet. Here on earth, God may be present in His creation, but that doesn’t mean it’s always easy to endure.

Lent is, essentially, a time to listen for the voice of God in places we may not expect: the mild irritations you experience when you’re craving the chocolate you gave up, or the dull pangs of hunger during the Ash Wednesday fast. It’s a golden opportunity to see the divine hand in all of creation, even those unlikely suspects.

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi





Our Parish Staff:

Fr. Matthew Heinrich, *Pastor*
Fr. Robert Carlton, *Associate Pastor*
Fr. Robert Fedek, *Weekend Assistant*
Deacon Rick & Carol Moritz
Deacon Ronald & Connie Gronek
Deacon Michael & Melissa Bednarz
Vincent Kennedy, *Director of Operations*
Scott Will, *Director of Worship*
Melissa Anna, *Office Administration & Communications/
 Bulletin Editor*
Marilyn Sadowski, *Receptionist*
Bernadette Anna, *Parish Sacristan*
Michael La Haye, *Head of Maintenance*
Anthony Vitali, *Maintenance*

*✉:

fr.matt@icchicago.org
 rcarlton@archchicago.org

 rmoritz@icchicago.org

 vkennedy@icchicago.org
 swill@icchicago.org
 m.anna@icchicago.org
 parishbulletin@icchicago.org
 parishoffice@icchicago.org

**Please note: new email addresses of our Parish Staff*

Our School Staff:

Sue Canzoneri, *Principal*
Tina Fitzgerald, *Assistant Principal*
Julie Szwedo, *Religious Education Coordinator*
Lisa Kessler, *School Accountant*
Mary Haley, *School Secretary*

canzoneri@iccowboys.net
 fitzgerald@iccowboys.net
 szwedo@iccowboys.net
 kessler@iccowboys.net
 haley@iccowboys.net

What's Happening @ IC...

Monday, February 22nd -
7:00 P.M. – Alpha Session; Zoom

Wednesday, February 24th -
**7:00 P.M. – Lenten Vespers Service;
 Church**

Thursday, February 25th -
8:30 A.M. – Weekday Mass; Church

Friday, February 26th -
7:00 P.M. – Stations Of The Cross; Church

Saturday, February 27th –
**Noon-3:00 P.M. – First Reconciliation (2nd Grade);
 Church**

**For more information on upcoming events, please visit
 our parish website @ www.icchicago.org**



Your Gifts to God and Parish...

If you plan to move from our parish, please notify our Parish Office at least three months prior to your change of address. Also, if you will be away from home for more than 3 months, please contact us so that your envelopes can be stopped during that time period. If you have transitioned to electronic giving and still receive offertory envelopes, please contact our Parish Office so that we can discontinue your receiving of envelopes.

Parish Registration: Please contact our Parish Office at 773.775.3833 or visit our parish website at www.icchicago.org to join our parish family.

Bulletin Deadline: The deadline for all bulletin submissions is Friday at Noon – 8 days prior to the Sunday it will appear. Bulletin submissions are accepted via email at: parishbulletin@icchicago.org (*Please note: new email address.)